

# **A Simple Guide To The Fiqh of Tahara (Purification)**

**The Prophet (Sallallahu alayhi was sallam) Said,**

**"Purity Is Half of Iman (Faith)"**

**(Sahih Muslim)**

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# **A Simple Guide to The Fiqh Of Tahara (Purification)**

**In The Name Of Allah, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful**

## **Manners of Going to the Bathroom**

- ❖ Muslims are required to seek a secluded area away from the view of others when answering the call of nature
- ❖ Scholars consider it improper to enter the bathroom with something containing Allah's Name (such as a copy of the Qur'an Islamic books, etc.), unless the person fears that the object might be lost or misplaced
- ❖ One should refrain from talking while using the toilet
- ❖ If one relieves himself outside he should avoid facing the Qiblah (the direction of the Ka'bah in Makkah) or turning his back to it
- ❖ Before entering the toilet it is recommended to say:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ

**"In The Name Of Allah"**

**Recorded in Sunan Tirmizi and Sunan Ibn Majah**

(Then the following)

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ الْخُبْثِ وَالْخَبَائِثِ

**"O Allah, I Take Refuge With You From All Evil And Evil-Doers."**

**Recorded in Bukhari and Muslim**

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- ❖ When leaving the area one has relieved himself in he should say:

غُفْرَانِكَ

**"I Ask You (Allah) For Forgiveness."**

**Recorded in Sunan Abu Dawud, Sunan Tirmizi and Sunan Ibn Majah**

## **Cleaning After Using the Bathroom**

- ❖ One should not use his right hand to touch his private parts while urinating or washing up after answering the call of nature
- ❖ The person should cleanse himself with a dry substance such as a tissue followed by cleansing with water
- ❖ The left hand should be used as much as possible for these cleaning procedures.

## **Wudu (Ablution)**

### **How to perform Wudu (Ablution)**

Those who wish to perform Wudu should perform it in the following way:

- 1) The Intention should be made in the heart to perform ablution
- 2) The he should mention the Name of Allah (Bismillah)
- 3) Then wash the hands up the wrists three times
- 4) Next, one should rinse mouth and inhale water into the nose and blow it out three times. (Each time if can use one handful of water to clean both that is better)
- 5) The entire face should then be washed at least once. (Face – means from the upper part of the forehead to the lower part of the chin and from ear to ear)
- 6) Then the arms should be washed starting from the hands and continuing up to and including the elbows
- 7) Then he should wipe over his head by passing the wet hands from the upper part of the forehead to the back of the hair line and then back to the front of the hair where he began
- 8) The with the water that remains on his hands he should clean the inside of his ears and the outside of the ears
- 9) Finally, the feet should be washed starting with the right one and including the ankles and heels.

❖ It is preferred to keep the abovementioned sequence in order.

## **Supplication upon Completing the Ablution**

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ  
مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

“I Testify That There Is No God But Allah And That Muhammad Is The Servant  
Of Allah And His Messenger.”

If One Says The Above The Eight Gates Of Paradise Would Be Opened For Him  
And He May Enter By Whichever Of Them He Wishes.

**Recorded in Sahih Muslim and Sunan Abu Dawud**

## **Actions That Nullify The Wudu**

❖ The following nullify the Wudu:

- 1) Air released from the back passage<sup>1</sup>
- 2) Faeces & urine<sup>2</sup>
- 3) Discharge of Madi<sup>3</sup>[pre-ejaculatory fluid]
- 4) Discharge of Wadi<sup>4</sup>[usually comes out due to an illness, it is a white substance]
- 5) Deep sleep<sup>5</sup>[when one has lost his consciousness]
- 6) Losing consciousness, insanity or fainting<sup>6</sup>
- 7) Touching private parts with desire<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Recorded in Bukhari

<sup>2</sup>Surah Maeda: 6

<sup>3</sup>Recorded in Bukhari & Muslim

<sup>4</sup>Recorded in Abu Dawud, albani graded it sahih

<sup>5</sup>Recorded in ibn Majah, albani graded it Hasan

<sup>6</sup> Imam Nawawi said in al-Majmoo' (2/25): “The Ummah is unanimously agreed that wudu is invalidated by insanity and by fainting...”

## **Wiping Over Socks**

There are several narrations regarding leather socks thus making it Mutawaatir (highest level of authenticity). One can wipe over thick non-leather socks.

### **What Are The Conditions Of Wiping Over The Socks?**

- 1) Socks must be put on after performing ablution<sup>8</sup>
- 2) Socks can be wiped over for 1 day & night after the first wipe for residents, and 3 days & 3 nights after the first wipe for the travellers<sup>9</sup>
- 3) Wipe over only the top of the sock<sup>10</sup>

### **Actions That Nullify Wiping Over Socks**

- 1) Time period has ended
- 2) After sexual relations/Wet dream
- 3) Socks are removed and wudu is broken before they are put back on

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<sup>7</sup>Recorded in ibn Majah, albani graded it Sahih

<sup>8</sup>Recorded in Bukhari and Muslim

<sup>9</sup>Recorded in Muslim

<sup>10</sup>Recorded in Abu Dawud, albani graded it sahih

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### **Wiping Over a Turban, Headscarf and a Bandage**

- ❖ It is permissible to wipe over a turban if it covers the entire head<sup>11</sup>
- ❖ It is permissible for the woman to wipe over her headscarf due to a necessity as long as the headscarf covers her head and goes under her chin
- ❖ It is permissible for one to wipe over a bandage or plaster which has been put on due to a need.

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<sup>11</sup>Recorded in Muslim

## **Ghusl (Bath)**

### **What Makes Bathing Obligatory?**

- 1) Ejaculation of sperm, either when awake or asleep<sup>12</sup>
- 2) Sexual Intercourse, regardless of whether or not ejaculation occurs, if private parts both touch the Ghusl (Bath) becomes obligatory<sup>13</sup>
- 3) Once menstruation or bleeding after pregnancy has ended<sup>14</sup>
- 4) When a non-Muslim embraces Islam<sup>15</sup>
- 5) Death (washing of the dead)<sup>16</sup>

### **When Bathing Is Preferred?**

- 1) Taking a bath on the day of Jumu'ah
- 2) For one who has washed a dead body
- 3) Before assuming the state of Ihram for Umrah or Hajj
- 4) Before entering Makkah

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<sup>12</sup>Recorded in Bukhari

<sup>13</sup>Recorded in Muslim

<sup>14</sup>Recorded in Bukhari and Muslim

<sup>15</sup>Recorded in an-Nasa'i, Tirmidhi and Abu Dawud. Shaykh albani graded it Sahih

<sup>16</sup>Recorded in Bukhari & Muslim



## **A Simple Guide To The Fiqh Of Tahara (Purification)**

### **How To Take A Bath To Remove Sexual Impurity?**

Having the intention in the heart to bathe in order to remove the major impurity, one can perform in following way:

1) Description of the bath:

- I. Mention the name of Allah (By saying Bismillah)
- II. Wash the hands three times
- III. Clean the private parts with the left hand
- IV. Perform the regular acts of Wudu (it is recommended to delay washing the feet until the end of the bath, but if in a shower one can also clean the feet)
- V. He should clean his whole body by pouring water over himself and starting from the right side
- VI. Finally, the person should wash his feet while shifting away from the previous area of washing, if he hasn't washed it earlier<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> Recorded in Bukhari

## **Tayammum (Purification with Dust or Soil)**

- ❖ Tayammum is permissible as a substitute for Wudu (Ablution) or complete Ghusl (Bath).

### **When Is Tayammum Allowed?**

- 1) When there is no water available<sup>18</sup>
- 2) When one is wounded and by using water it will cause more harm to the wound
- 3) If someone is severely ill<sup>19</sup>
- 4) If the water available is extremely cold and may cause harm<sup>20</sup>
- 5) When there is not enough water for everyone to do wudu

### **How Is Tayammum Performed**

- 1) Make intention in the heart to purify yourself from a state of either minor or major impurity
- 2) They say Bismillah (In the Name of Allah)
- 3) Then strike the earth once with ones palms then blow the excess dust off them
- 4) Finally, Wipe face and both hands up to elbows including the wrists

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<sup>18</sup>Recorded in Tirmidhi. Graded Hasan

<sup>19</sup>Recorded in Abu Dawud, albani graded it Hasan

<sup>20</sup>Recorded in Abu Dawud, albani graded it sahih

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### **Factors That Nullify Tayammum**

- 1) Anything that nullifies wudu
- 2) When water is found
- 3) When the legal excuse is removed, e.g. cured from illness, injury, etc.

### **Menstruation**

- ❖ In Arabic, the word for menstruation (al-Hayd) literally means "running." Here it refers to the discharge of blood during a woman's state of health, not from giving birth or breaking the hymen.
- ❖ Most scholars say that its time begins at the age of nine. If blood is seen before that age, it is not menstrual blood, but is considered to be putrid blood. As there is no evidence about when a woman stops menstruating, if an elderly lady finds blood flowing it is considered menstrual blood.

### **Requirements For Blood To Be Considered Menstrual, The Colour Can Be:**

- 1) Dark
- 2) Red. It is the original colour of blood.
- 3) Yellow. It is a liquid, like pus.
- 4) A muddy colour. It is an intermediate colour between black and white, like dirt.

### **Length of Time for The Menses**

- ❖ Menstruation usually lasts six or seven days each month with some variations.

### **(Nifas) Post-Childbirth Bleeding**

- ❖ Such bleeding occurs after the birth of a child, regardless if the child survived the birth or not.
- ❖ This type of bleeding has no minimum duration, for it could stop right after the birth or there could even be no blood.
- ❖ The maximum duration is forty days.

## **Forbidden Acts for Women Experiencing Menstruation and Post-Childbirth Bleeding**

- 1) To Prayer
- 2) To Fast
- 3) To enter the Masjid
- 4) A menstruating woman may recite Qur'an without touching the Mushaf, according to the most correct view
- 5) To make Tawaf around the Ka'bah
- 6) To have sexual relations with one's husband

### **How Does The Menstruating Woman Become Pure**

- ❖ It is obligatory for a menstruating woman when her bleeding stops to perform a complete Ghusl (Bath) before performing any of the Islamic rituals.

### **Women with Prolonged Flows of Blood (al-Istahaadhah – Non-Menstrual Bleeding)**

- ❖ This is a bleeding that occurs for reasons other than menstruation or childbirth
- ❖ If the woman suffering from Istahaadhah and wants to perform Wudu (Ablution), she should wash the blood from her private area, then apply a pad or wrap around the area with a clean cloth on top of a pile of cotton to absorb the blood. Any blood coming out after that is not accounted
- ❖ For a woman who is suffering from Istahaadhah, it is a must for her to do wudu' for each prayer, what that means is that she should not do wudu' for a prayer that is to be performed at a particular time until the time for it has begun.